Janis Kozlowski: Where did you work?

Eleanor Mae Cramer: Lockheed, in Burbank.

Janis Kozlowski: What type of work did you do?

Eleanor Mae Cramer: Oh, it was on the airplanes, you know, the gas tanks and just general maintenance and things.

Janis Kozlowski: So, did you install gas tanks?

Eleanor Mae Cramer: No. I worked on a putty – a sealant – for gas tanks. It was a, you know…it was secret then. It was a medicine … medicine … some chemicals that they used to seal those gas tanks. Fred Caruso was the inventor of it. I worked with him at Lockheed.

Janis Kozlowski: So this made the tanks self sealing?

Eleanor Mae Cramer: Yes, and something else about it that was supposed to be very good for the gas. I just know that it was patented and was considered very good and the formula was kept secret for awhile.

Janis Kozlowski: Oh! So was that an aftermarket ... you know, after the airplane was put together then this new sealant came out and then you put it on after the airplane was all ... already assembled?

Eleanor Mae Cramer: No, I don't know about that because they had a spray thing where I worked, they sprayed stuff on the parts and things. But I don't know about, you know, the chemicals. They didn't tell us anything. They just did it and then we assembled.

Janis Kozlowski: Oh, ok.

Eleanor Mae Cramer: It was, in other words, supposed to be secret.

Janis Kozlowski: So, so was it something that you had to agree not to say anything about?

Eleanor Mae Cramer: Yes, we were all told not to discuss our work and anything that they do there. That was policy. Don't talk about it.

Janis Kozlowski: No matter what role you had in the company.

Eleanor Mae Cramer: I was just one of those general workers and we were instructed to keep things to ourselves.

Janis Kozlowski: What ... the sealant that you used for the gas tanks, do you know which airplanes those gas tanks went on?

Eleanor Mae Cramer: No, but I do know it was on the great big airplanes. They didn't particularly tell us which ones. But, I know they were ... it was one of the most important ones. They just didn't discuss that.

Janis Kozlowski: Un-hnn. Did you also work in other areas of the plant?

Eleanor Mae Cramer: Mostly in the paint department and the chemistry lab.

Janis Kozlowski: Ok. And that pretty well dealt with the sealant that you mentioned.

Eleanor Mae Cramer: Yes.

Janis Kozlowski: Ok. So, how long did you work there?

Eleanor Mae Cramer: I believe it must have been ... it was all during the ... you know, that time. I guess I worked there five years, but it was part of it--the beginning and the end.... My Mother and I both worked together in the same department. Of course, she's passed away now and can't tell about it. But we worked together and it was, oh, it was interesting and very.... Well, we were proud of what we did, what we were accomplishing and things. It was something good.

We had little pins. They gave us pins for doing certain things that we wore so many years, so many months and all that. That was ... it was something to be proud of and we were glad to go. Of course, we both went together and that made it interesting too, Mother and daughter.